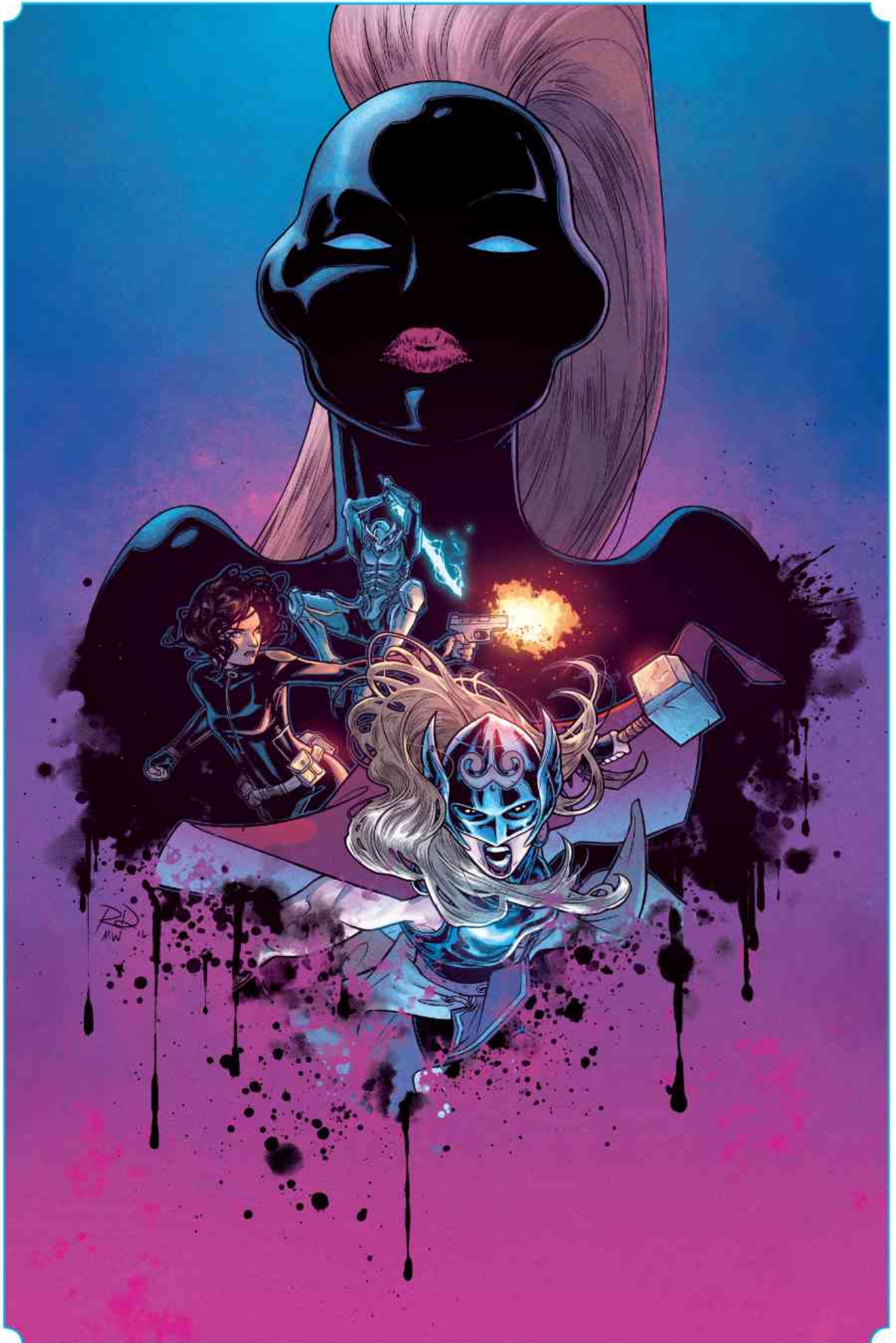




THE AGGER IMPERATIVE

THEY WERE
GOING TO
KILL YOU.

MALEKITH.
THAT WAS
HIS PLAN ALL
ALONG.

YOU AS THE
ALL-MOTHER...
FRIGHTENED
HIM.

HE WANTS A
BORSON ON THE
THRONE OF ASGARD.
WHETHER THAT'S ODIN
OR HIS BROTHER
CUL, MALEKITH
DOESN'T CARE.

ONE IS JUST
AS GOOD AS THE
OTHER WHEN IT COMES
TO BEING HEADSTRONG
AND STUBBORN AND
WILLFULLY BLIND TO
THE PLIGHT OF THE
OTHER REALMS.

MY
LORD.

YOU CANNOT
KEEP DOING THIS
DAY AFTER DAY. EVEN
ONE OF YOUR
OMNIPOTENCE
WILL SURELY...

LET HER
DRINK.

EVERY
LAST DROP, IF
THAT'S WHAT
IT TAKES.



 **MIDGARD.**
THE SOUTHERN
OCEAN.

I FAIL TO
UNDERSTAND, AGENT
SOLOMON. YOU SAID
WE WOULD BE RUSHING
HEADLONG INTO
GREAT DANGER.

YEAH, WELL,
WE ARE, BELIEVE
ME, THOR. IT'S...
UH...AROUND HERE
SOMEWHERE.



YOU'LL
KNOW IT WHEN
YOU SEE IT.

I HAVE
THE EYES OF A
GODDESS, BUT I
SEE NAUGHT BUT
ICE AND EMPTY
OCEAN. WHY HAVE
WE COME TO
THIS PLACE?

AND WHAT
DOES THIS HAVE
TO DO WITH DARIO
AGGER OF
ROXXON?

EVERYTHING.

A FEW
MONTHS AGO I
WAS APPROACHED BY
A DISGRUNTLED ROXXON
PROGRAMMER. HE WAS
THINKING OF BREAKING
HIS N.D.A. AND SPILLING
THE BEANS ON HIS
EMPLOYERS.

HE WOULDN'T
TELL ME MUCH,
BUT HE DID KEEP
MENTIONING SOMETHING
CALLED ICE STATION
PRIME.

COMMENCING
ADVANCED RADAR
SCAN.



ROXXON'S
MAIN COMPUTER HUB.
HIDDEN SOMEWHERE IN
THE SOUTHERN OCEAN. HE
NEVER GAVE ME THE
EXACT COORDINATES,
THOUGH.



AND TWO DAYS
AFTER I MET HIM,
THE BRAKES AND
SEATBELT ON HIS
ROXX-AM SPORTS
CAR MYSTERIOUSLY
FAILED AND HE
WAS DEAD.



IF I HAD JUST KIDNAPPED DARIO AGGER AND WAS LOOKING TO DESTROY HIS ENTIRE COMPANY...

...AN EVENTUALITY I MAY HAVE POSSIBLY GIVEN SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT TO...

...MY NEXT STEP WOULD BE TAKING OUT THIS ICE STATION PRIME.



BUT I'VE BEEN SEARCHING THIS AREA FOR MONTHS NOW AND HAVEN'T FOUND A, UH...

SORRY, SHOULD I LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE?

BE SWIFT, MJOLNIR. FIND THE ROXXON BASE.



IF THIS ICE STATION IS ANYWHERE NEAR, MJOLNIR WILL UNCOVER IT.

OKAY, COOL. NEAT TRICK, THOR.

ALSO SUPER CREEPY.

WE FIND THAT COMPUTER HUB, IT JUST MIGHT GIVE US THE EVIDENCE WE NEED TO FINALLY BRING ROXXON CRUMBLING DOWN.

TO MAKE THEM PAY FOR WHAT THEY'VE DONE TO THIS PLANET. AND ALL THE PEOPLE THEY'VE CRUSHED ALONG THE WAY.

FOR WHAT THEY DID TO BROXTON, OKLAHOMA.*

*SEE THOR: GOD OF THUNDER #19-24.
-WIL



"...IT'S CALLED THE **AGGER IMPERATIVE**. AND IT'S SOMETHING WE HAVE TO AVOID AT ALL COSTS."



**MEANWHILE.
NOT FAR AWAY.**

WARNING.
THIS FACILITY IS
UNDER ATTACK.

THREAT
LEVEL OMEGA.
LETHAL FORCE IS
AUTHORIZED AND
ENCOURAGED.

DOOMSDAY
SCENARIO IS
IN EFFECT!
STATUS UPDATE,
PEOPLE!

SATELLITE
UPLOAD AT 79 PERCENT.
ALL SERVERS ARE SET TO
FRY BEFORE BEING
ACCESSED.

STILL
TRIANGULATING
THE NANITE TRACKING
AGENT IN MR. AGGER'S
BLOOD. SHOULD HAVE
A G.P.S. LOCK ANY
SECOND NOW.

READY
TO DEPLOY THE
**BERSERKER
SQUAD.**

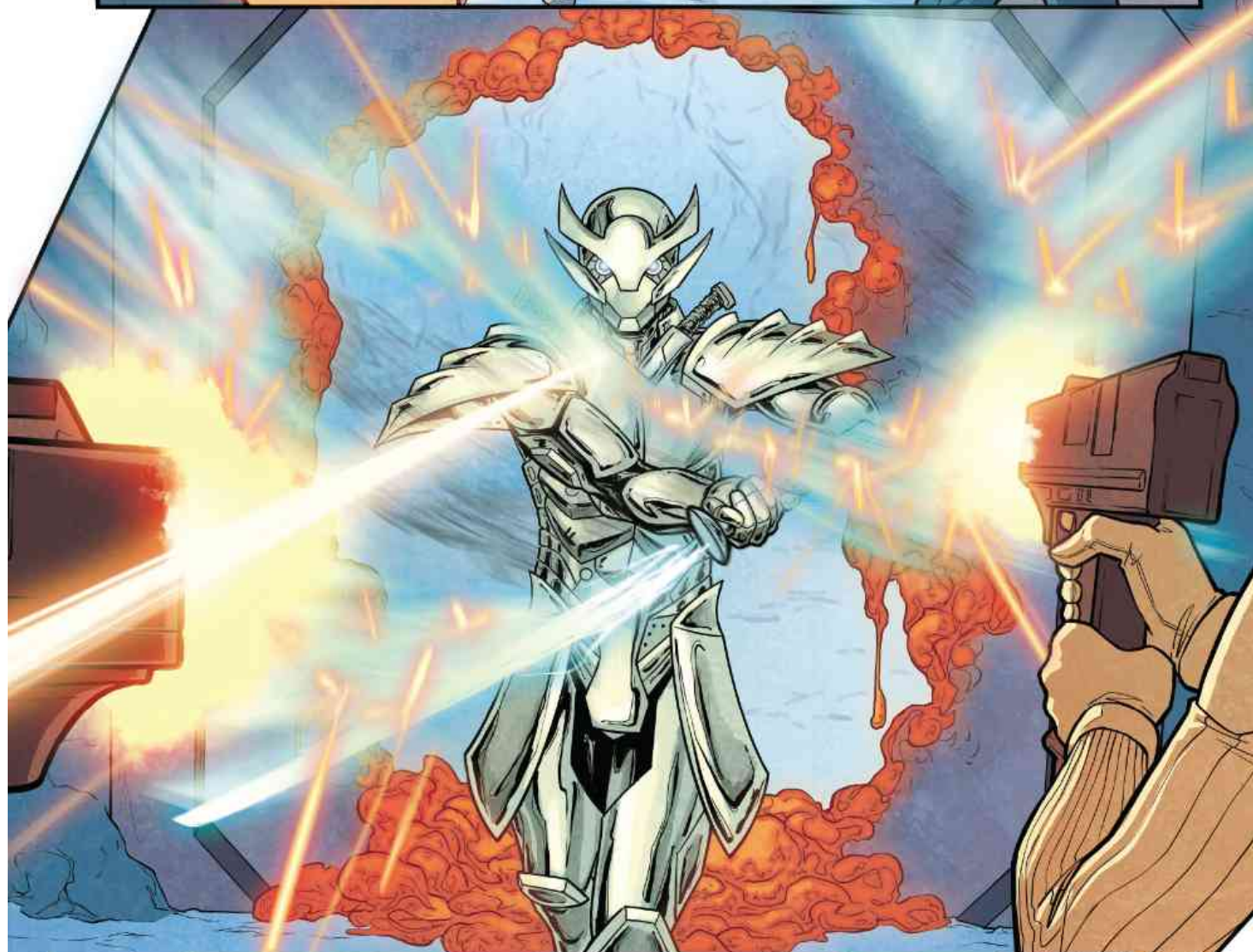
THE 'ZERKERS?!
HAVE THEY EVEN
BEEN FIELD-
TESTED YET?

WE DON'T HAVE
TIME FOR FIELD
TESTING! THIS IS NOT
A DRILL, FOLKS! WE ARE
COUNTING DOWN UNTIL
THE AGGER IMPERATIVE
KICKS IN, AND WE ALL
KNOW WHAT
THAT--

WE HAVE
MULTIPLE UNITS
DOWN AND TARGET
INCOMING! ANYONE
NOT CHAINED TO A
TERMINAL, STAND
UP AND FALL
IN, NOW!

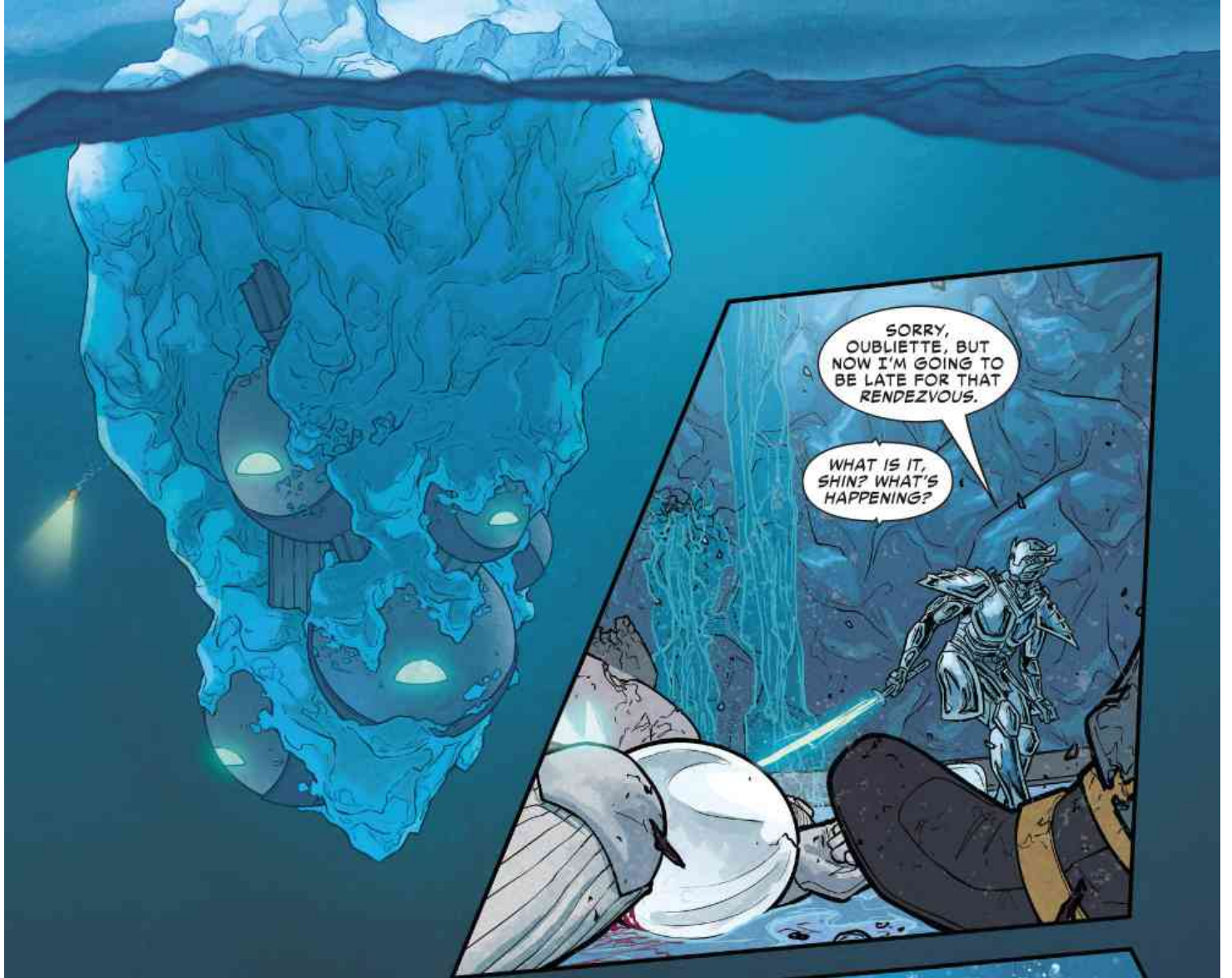
BUT...
I WENT
TO M.I.T.

THEN YOU'RE
SMART ENOUGH
TO USE THIS.
LET'S GO.









SORRY,
OUBLIETTE, BUT
NOW I'M GOING TO
BE LATE FOR THAT
RENDEZVOUS.

WHAT IS IT,
SHIN? WHAT'S
HAPPENING?



NOTHING
I CAN'T
HANDLE.





THANKS.
THAT'LL REALLY
HELP MY BATTERY
LIFE.

UGH!



YOU'RE
NEW AT THIS,
RIGHT? I'M
GUESSING YOU
HAVEN'T FOUGHT
IRON MAN
YET.

IN ONE OF
THOSE CIVIL
WARS YOU PEOPLE
LIKE TO HAVE FROM
TIME TO TIME.

I'M
LIKE IRON
MAN.



IF IRON
MAN WAS COOL
AND KNEW KARATE
AND CARRIED
A BADASS
SWORD!



THOR? YOU
STILL THERE?
YOU DIDN'T BREAK
MY EARPIECE,
DID YOU?

LISTEN,
SHINGEN HARADA
IS A SERIOUS DUDE.
HE'S THE SUPER-GENIUS
HEAD OF YASHIDA
INDUSTRIES.

LINKED TO THE
YAKUZA. TRAINED
BY THE NINJAS OF THE
HAND. HE'S LIKE IRON
MAN, IF IRON
MAN WAS--

--ABOUT TO
BE BLUDGEONED
REPEATEDLY WITH
A HAMMER.

IT'S A BOLD
MOVE BY HARADA,
DECLARING WAR ON
ROXXON LIKE THIS.
TOO BOLD.

SOMETHING
TELLS ME
OUR NEW FRIEND
THE SILVER
SAMURAI...

"...ISN'T ACTING ALONE."

YOU'VE BEEN AWFULLY QUIET THESE LAST FEW THOUSAND MILES.

BUSY PLOTTING YOUR DARING *ESCAPE*, MR. AGGER?

I'M DECIDING HOW I WANT TO KILL YOU, MS. MIDAS. SO FAR I'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO THE TOP 25 MOST HORRENDOUSLY PAINFUL OPTIONS.

RIGHT, WELL, SPEAKING OF PAIN...

HRRRRRRGGHHH!

THAT'S JUST A REMINDER OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU SHOULD TRY TO INVITE YOUR FRIEND THE MINOTAUR TO OUR LITTLE PARTY.

DID I SAY...TOP 25? IT'S BACK UP TO 50.

LOOK AT ME, DARIO.

I'M OUBLIETTE MIDAS.

MY FATHER WAS AN IRRADIATED SADIST WHO NAMED ME AFTER AN INSTRUMENT OF TORTURE AND RAISED ME TO BE HIS PERSONAL MURDER DOLL.

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M A STRANGER TO PAIN?



GOOD THING YOUR OLD MAN DIDN'T LIVE TO SEE THIS. YOU RUNNING HIS BELOVED MIDAS FOUNDATION INTO THE GROUND.

THERE'LL BE NOTHING LEFT WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH YOU, GIRL. I WILL TEAR DOWN EVERY TRACE OF YOUR COMPANY AND SELL IT FOR SCRAP.

I'LL AUCTION YOUR FATHER'S BONES TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.



THAT'S RIGHT, KEEP TALKING, DARIO.

I READ YOUR EX-WIFE'S TELL-ALL BIOGRAPHY. APPARENTLY TALKING IS ONE OF THE FEW THINGS YOU'RE ACTUALLY GOOD AT.

AND IT'S CERTAINLY ALL I NEED YOU TO DO.



YOU ALREADY TOLD ME THE LOCATION OF YOUR SECRET ICE STATION FACILITY. DO YOU EVEN REMEMBER DOING THAT?

IT ONLY TOOK ONE OF THESE NEEDLES AND A FEW C.C.S OF LIQUID COERCION. I WONDER...



WHAT WILL YOU TELL ME WHEN I STAB YOU WITH ALL THREE?

THE COMBINATION TO THE VAULTS IN ROXXON ISLAND? THE PASSWORD TO YOUR PRIVATE BANK ACCOUNTS? ALL YOUR DEEPEST, DARKEST, DIRTIEST LITTLE SECRETS?

I'LL TELL YOU...TO GO TO HELL. RIGHT BEFORE I PUT MY FIST THROUGH YOUR HEART.



WARNING, HOSTILE VESSELS DETECTED. CONTACT IMMINENT.

OR MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAVE ME THE TROUBLE.



ATTENTION,
ENEMY CORPORATE
COMBATANT! THIS IS THE
ROXXON EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TEAM!

YOUR PLANE
IS SURROUNDED!
HAND OVER OUR
C.E.O. OR YOU WILL
NEVER LEAVE
THESE SKIES
ALIVE!



AUTOPILOT,
STAY THE
COURSE.

YOU TWO,
KEEP AN EYE
ON OUR GUEST.
I SHOULDN'T
BE LONG.



"WE DIDN'T COME HERE
LOOKING FOR TROUBLE.
IT'S UP TO YOU HOW
THIS GOES DOWN--"

ASGARDIA.

--WE'RE
HERE TO SERVE A
LAWFUL SEARCH
WARRANT.



"...HAS HER
HANDS FULL
ELSEWHERE."

ENOUGH
WITH THE
HAMMER!

I'M WEARING
TWO BILLION DOLLARS'
WORTH OF CUTTING-EDGE
TECHNOLOGY AND YOU'RE
COMING AT ME WITH THE
THIRD BEST INVENTION OF
THE STONE AGE!

I DON'T CARE
IF IT'S SPRINKLED
WITH YOUR MAGIC PIXIE
DUST, TINKERBELL, YOU'RE
STILL OUTCLASSED BY
SEVERAL MILLENNIA WHEN
IT COMES TO--

GAGH

HUNH

HUKK!

AND
YOU'RE UNDER
ARREST, POWER
RANGER.

WE'LL MAKE
SURE YOU GET A
NICE "CUTTING-EDGE"
CELL. LASER BARS
AND EVERYTHING.
NOW, PLEASE...

GOD, I
CAN'T BELIEVE
I'M ABOUT TO
SAY THIS...

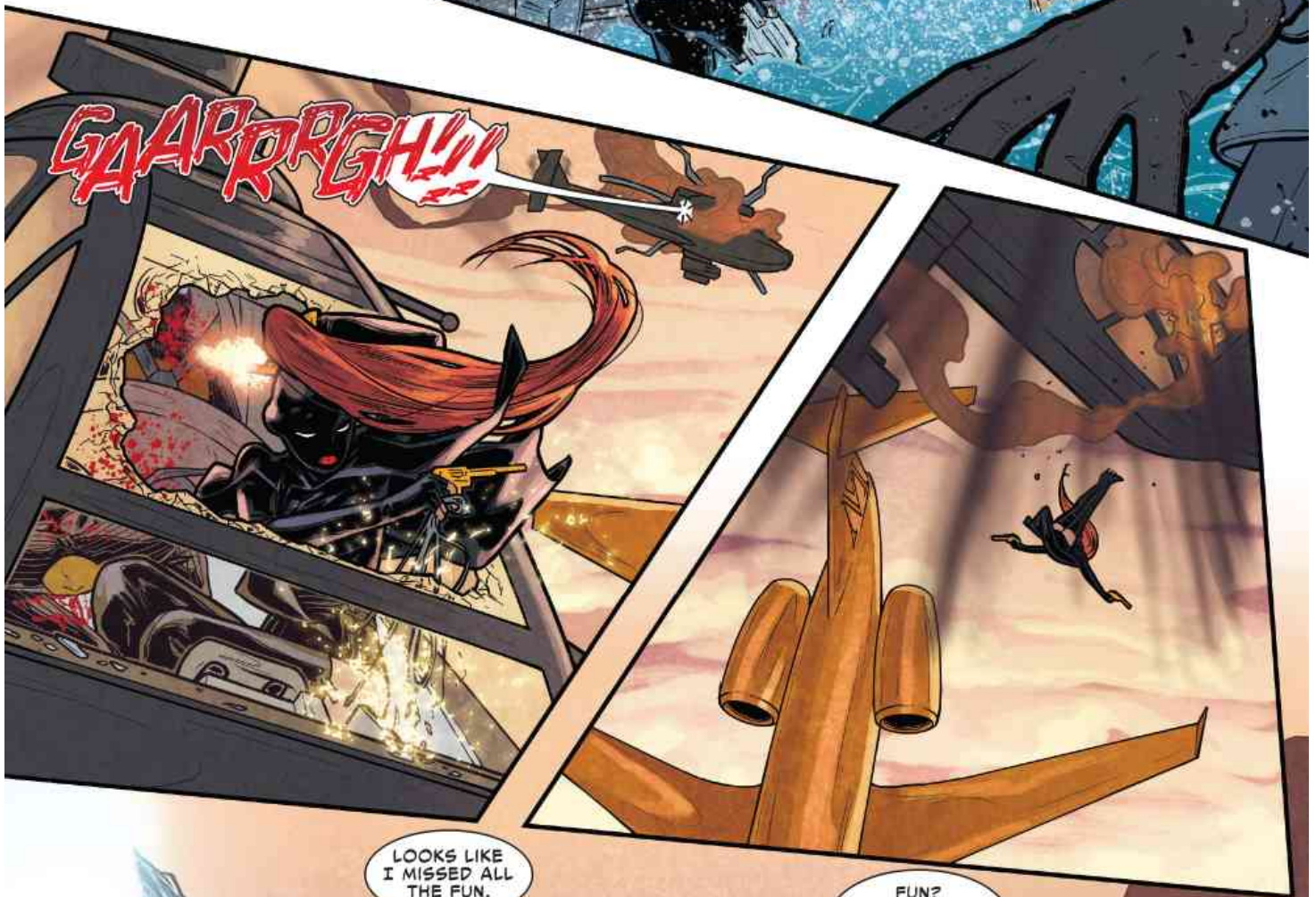
PLEASE
TELL ME
YOU HAVEN'T
HURT DARIO
AGGER.



I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT AGGER. HE'LL AT LEAST OUTLIVE THE TWO OF YOU!

THE WHOLE BASE WILL FLOOD IN SECONDS! WE'VE GOTTA EVACUATE AS MANY PEOPLE AS WE CAN BEFORE...

YOU SHOULD HOLD ON TO SOMETHING, AGENT SOLOMON.



GAARRRGH!!



LOOKS LIKE I MISSED ALL THE FUN.

FUN? OH NO, MY DEAR SHINGEN. THIS...

"...WAS PURELY BUSINESS."

I'LL ONLY ASK THIS ONCE.

WHERE'S AGGER?!

WE...WE NEED TO TALK TO THE ROXXON LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

YOU'RE IN THE SOUTHERN OCEAN, PINHEAD. AIN'T NO LAWYERS OUT HERE.

AND MY GOOD FRIEND THE THUNDER GODDESS JUST SAVED YOUR STUPID LIVES.

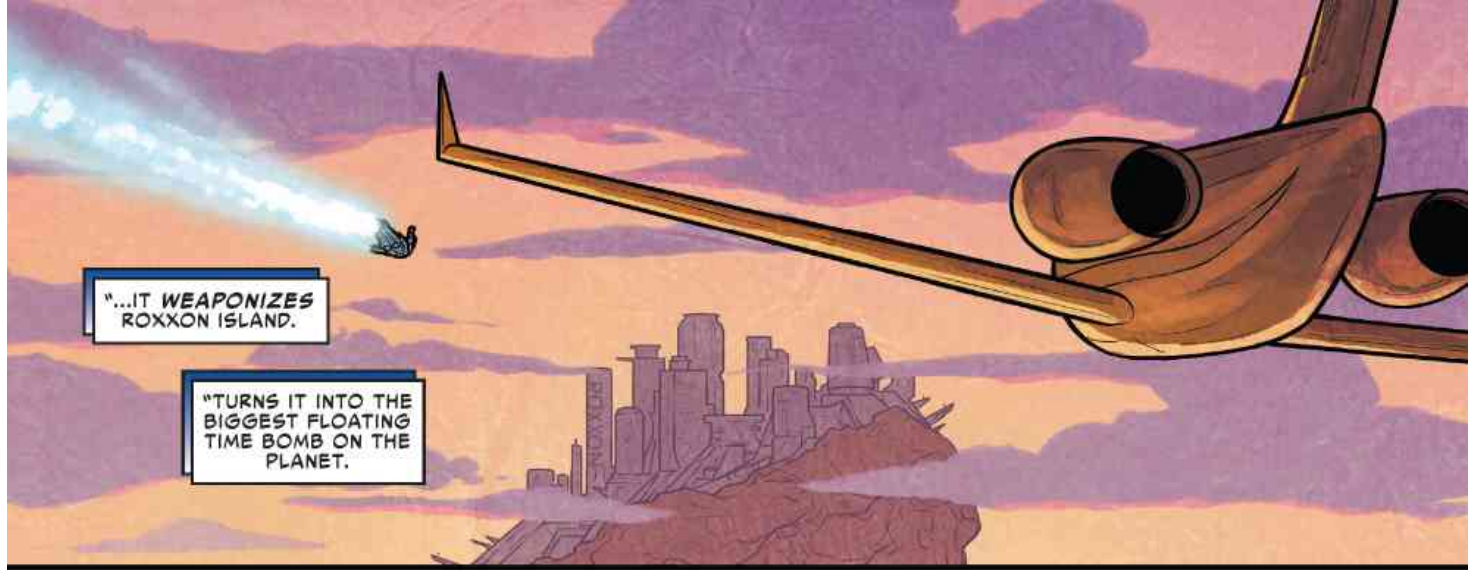
I KNOW YOU'RE TRACKING AGGER SOMEHOW. YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME EXACTLY WHERE HE IS. AND THEN...

THEN YOU'RE GONNA SHUT DOWN THE AGGER IMPERATIVE.

I...I CAN'T. ONCE IT'S STARTED, IT CAN'T BE...

WHAT IS THIS :HRR: 'AGGER IMPERATIVE'?

DARIO'S CONTINGENCY PLAN IN THE CASE OF AN ATTEMPTED HOSTILE TAKEOVER OF ROXXON. BASICALLY...



"...IT WEAPONIZES
ROXXON ISLAND.

"TURNS IT INTO THE
BIGGEST FLOATING
TIME BOMB ON THE
PLANET.



"AND AIMS IT RIGHT
AT MANHATTAN.

"THE WAY AGGER
FIGURES...IF HE'S
NOT GONNA BE
AROUND TO RULE
WALL STREET...

"...NO ONE ELSE
SHOULD HAVE
IT EITHER."



AND ONCE THE
IMPERATIVE HAS BEEN
INITIATED, APPARENTLY
THE ONLY ONE WHO
CAN STOP IT...IS
AGGER HIMSELF.

THEN
OUR MISSION
-HRR- IS
CLEAR.



"WE MUST
SAVE DARIO
AGGER.

"GODS HELP
US ALL."

AAAAARRRRRRRGHHH!!!